

City of Auburn Traffic Committee MINUTES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

8:30 a.m.

Auburn City Hall

1225 Lincoln Way, **Room 10**

The Regular Session of the Traffic Committee was held in Room 10, City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California on Tuesday, May 15th at 8:30 a.m. with Chair Ruffcorn presiding and Deputy City Clerk Amy Lind recording the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL:

Committee Members Present: John Ruffcorn, Chair, Bernie Schroeder, Dir. Of Public Works, Fred Vitas, (for Alan Young) Planning Commission

Committee Members Absent: Bill Kirby, Robert Richardson

1. Public Comment: none.
2. By MOTION, approve Traffic Committee 3/20/2012 Minutes.
MOTION: Schroeder/ Vitas/ Unanimously approved by voice

Business Items:

3. 3 way stop at Lincoln and Electric (petition from Mr. Verissimo)

Daniel Verissimo, resident on Lincoln Way spoke about accidents, lack of patrol and a need for a crosswalk with stop signs at Lincoln Way and Electric. Resident at 284 Lincoln Way spoke about problems with a blind corner, speeding and bicyclists in the same area.

Resident at 271 Lincoln Way also spoke about problems with unsafe turns, speeding, other dangers at the area. They said it will increase danger with the Charter school opening in the area.

Chief Ruffcorn said he would increase patrols in the area. He said they will concentrate traffic enforcement to get a better idea of the issue. Bernie Schroder explained that a traffic study was completed in the area when this problem was brought up previously, and there can not be a stop sign and crosswalk put at this location due to a sight distance problem. She suggested trimming of some foliage in the area may increase sight distance.

Fred Vitas asked if slow down signs can be installed. He also asked about getting communication out to the students.

Chief Ruffcorn said he will bring up this issue when he has his regular meeting with the principle. He said he hopes the school opening and increased enforcement will naturally help the problem in the neighborhood, along with Public Works doing some trimming in the area.

4. Vegetation Trimming/Removal at SE Corner of Nevada Street at Fulweiler

Bernie Schroeder said this is a follow up to this issue previously brought up. She said westbound Fulweiler coming up to turn right (right on red) on Nevada has a sight distance problem. She said removal of some of the foliage both inside and outside of the cemetery fence would increase sight distance.

Sue Potter, Auburn Cemetery District, said even with foliage removal it will continue to be an issue because of the bend in the road. She said it was never an issue as a 4 way stop. She said she will work with the City on foliage removal.

5. No parking along Dairy Road across from Incline Dr

Fred Vitas said he had brought this item forward at a previous meeting, but the problem has recently decreased. He said the issue can be tabled for now.

6. Crosswalk at Auburn Folsom and Lincoln – update by Bernie

Bernie Schroder reported that she had signal maintenance check the timing in this crosswalk. She said it was increased 2 seconds to allow for max walking time without a negative traffic impact.

6. Sight Distance Concerns at Meadows Court and Dairy Road –update by Bernie

Bernie Schroeder said some trimming was completed, and the situation is still being monitored.

7. Thru Traffic Merge Left Sign on I-80 (brought by Kevin Hanley)

Email from Council Member Hanley: Problem: Too often, large trucks traveling at great speed going westbound on I-80 are too often in the right lane when cars on the Elm Street and Nevada Street on-ramps are trying to get onto I-80. Over the last 12 years, this is often a daily problem for me. I'm sure that I'm not alone in this problem. If these trucks were in the middle lane instead, it would be easier and safer for Auburn drivers to safely go on I-80 going west. A "Thru Traffic Merge Sign" up the hill, perhaps around Russell Road or before Russell road, would result in greater traffic safety.

Chief Ruffcorn called Cal Trans. He said the problem is large trucks travel in the right lane because it is generally recommended. He said this committee can send a letter to Cal Trans “encouraging” travel in the middle lane with signage “through traffic merge left”. Consensus was to send a letter to Cal Trans.

Adjournment

Chief Ruffcorn adjourned the meeting, at 9:20 a.m.